

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:26-15-1

(date entered 5-12-86)

MAGI #1651385604

(#assigned 11/86)

1. Name: Lincoln Park

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 26/15// 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 15
Coordinate H-114. Address: East of B & O Railroad Tracks
Rockville, Md.

5. Classification Summary

Category	District	Previous Survey Recording	MNCPPC
Ownership	private	Title and Date:	Historic Sites Inventory
Public Acquisition	N/A		1976
Status	occupied		
Accessible	no	Federal	State <u>x</u> County <u>x</u> Local
Present use	park; private residence; religious		

6. Date: late 19th century 7. Original Owner: William Wallace Welsh

8. Apparent Condition

a. good b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This is a mostly residential area that contains a mixture of housing types. Building material is most often frame, although there are a number of modern brick structures.

Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane opposite Southlawn Lane. The focal point here is Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with some sophisticated details. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings; one has a gable facade with inset open porch on the second story, the other is L-shaped with three-bay main facade, brick foundation, open Victorian porch, and stamped patterned tin roof material.

Other notable buildings are 302 Lincoln Avenue, a three-bay two-story detailed brick row house; 327 Lincoln, a three bay by two bay, cross gable 2½ story house with German siding and open porch; 319 Lincoln, a small two bay by one bay, 2½ story stuccoed house; 615 Douglass, with hipped roof and porch; Lincoln high School; and the Fishermen's Cemetery at Horner's Lane and Frederick Avenue.

10. Significance: Lincoln Park is one of the first real estate ventures in Montgomery County intended for sale to blacks.

To Rockville in 1865 came William Wallace Welsh, a former Hyattstown resident and Union soldier. By 1884 he had saved enough to open his own business, a general store near the railroad tracks. In 1891 he purchased 8.06 acres at \$100 per acre, buying another 7.1 acres the following year. He subdivided the property into quarter-acre lots, and sold them to blacks for \$80 each.

By the time of Welsh's death during WW I, most lots had been sold, and about 30 houses had been constructed, among them rental units belonging to Welsh. Fourteen pre-1920 structures remain. Workers from Lincoln Park were employed on surrounding farms, on the railroad or mills or in town, and at large homes and hotels in Rockville. The community was bound by friendship, blood, and marriage. The children attended a segregated 2-room school. Two black churches and fraternal and social organizations served the area and the cemetery was begun in 1917.

Lincoln Park was enlarged by several additions and subdivisions. The first black high school in the County was opened here in 1935. Lincoln Park became part of the City of Rockville in 1949, enabling them to acquire City water and sewer, paved streets, and recreational facilities.

11. Researcher and date researched: Sharyn Duffin/June 1979 Michael Dwyer/Eileen McGuckian

12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian 13. Date Compiled: 10/79

Arch. Desc.
14. Designation
Approval

15. Acreage:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 26/15/
MAGI #
1651385604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Lincoln Park

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East of B & O Railroad Tracks

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☒ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple Owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a mostly residential area that contains a mixture of housing types. Building material is most often frame, although there are a number of modern brick structures.

Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane, opposite South-lawn Lane. The focal point here is the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with a number of sophisticated details. The building is now covered with a modern, yellow-tile type of brick veneer. The central entrance is in the east gable facade. The door is flanked by slim pilasters, and narrow stained glass windows. Above the door is a large, circular stained glass window. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings. The first of these (606 Horner's Lane) is a white, two-story, gable-facade structure, with an inset open porch at the upper level. There is a rail with turned posts here. There is a central chimney. South of this, also facing east, is a two-story house with an A-roof and clap-board siding (604 Horner's Lane). It sits on a brick foundation and has a three-bay main facade, with the door in the north-end bay. An open Victorian porch crosses the front. A two-story ell extends to the rear (north). The chimneys are stove-types, and the roof is covered with stamped, patterned tin.

Nearby, at 302 Lincoln Ave., is a three-bay, two-story brick building with a flat roof and interior chimney. (It is now painted pink.) It resembles a detailed row or town house, such as those seen in Washington, Baltimore or Laurel. It has a number of ornamental features highlighted by molded brick work, such as in the window arches. The window sills appear to be of stone.

327 Lincoln is a three bay by two bay, cross-gable 2½ story house. The central door with sidelights opens onto a porch with simple vertical detailing. Windows are two-over-two double-hung, and there is a half moon decorative ventilator in the center gable. The walls are covered with German siding capped by a patterned tin roof. There is an interior end chimney in the main block and another in the rear addition. There is a cinderblock and wooden barn behind the house.

319 Lincoln is a small two bay by one bay, 2½ story house. It is frame covered with stucco, and has a gable roof. Windows are six-over-six double-hung, and the front porch has three chamfered posts. There is a two bay by two bay rear addition, and a small one story shed roof addition with chimney. A barn/garage sits behind the house.

615 Douglass is three-bays by two bays, 2½ stories with a hipped roof. The house and roof are sheathed in asbestos. There is a porch around two sides of the house, and a small side addition with complementary roof.

Montgomery County's first Negro high school (later junior high school) is located at the corner of Lincoln and Stonestreet Avenues; this brick building is now used by the school's maintenance department.

The Fishermen's Cemetery is located on a hill at the junction of Horner's Lane and Frederick Avenue.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Black History	

SPECIFIC DATES late 19th century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lincoln Park is significant as one of the first real estate ventures in Montgomery County intended for sale to blacks. The origins of Lincoln Park, therefore, differ from those of earlier black settlements which usually trace their origin to a gift or purchase of land by freed slaves.

Prior to the Civil War, there were few black land owners in the County, and most of these were located in the Quaker Community of Sandy Spring. The majority of Montgomery County black communities were established after the War. By 1880 the Rockville area had five major concentrations of blacks -- on Falls Road, Janetta, along Dover Road, and in Avery near Rock Creek, and in the central part of the Town itself.¹

To Rockville in 1865 came William Wallace Welsh, a former Hyattstown resident and Union soldier. He clerked in John H. Higgins' general store and by 1884 had saved enough money to start his own business. He constructed a store near the railroad tracks and employed a number of blacks. Some of Welsh's employees and regular customers were to become early residents of Lincoln Park.

Welsh purchased 8.06 acres of land at \$100 per acre from Chandler Keys in 1891,² and another parcel of 7.1 acres from the estate of Mary Dodd the following year.³ Welsh subdivided the 8.06 acre parcel into 53 lots (each approximately 50' by 200') and sold them for \$80 each. The first sale came in May 1891. The Dodd property was platted the following year as "The First Addition to Lincoln Park".⁴

By 1904 over two-thirds of the Welsh property had been sold, many purchasers buying two or more contiguous lots. By 1920 fewer than 30 houses had been constructed in Lincoln Park, among them at least seven rental units belonging to Welsh; 14 pre-1920 structures remain.

Many of the men worked on surrounding farms, on the railroad, at Hickerson's mill, at Welsh's store, or as skilled craftsmen. The women were domestics in the large homes in the West End and in the hotels which accommodated weekend and summer guests from Washington. The community was bound by friendship, blood, and marriage. The children attended a segregated two-room school. Two black churches were available nearby, as were a number of fraternal and social organizations.

In 1906 Lincoln Park was extended north and east to include what was known as the Griffith tract.⁵ Part of this tract was purchased by the order of Galilean Fishermen in 1917 for use as a cemetery;⁶ this fraternal order provided disability and death benefits for its members, and buried its dead here. It is still in use.

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Lincoln Park

The Griffith property was sold between 1910 and 1926. After Welsh's death during the influenza epidemic during World War I, his widow sold all but one of the remaining lots. By 1926 virtually all of Lincoln Park was under black ownership.

In 1926 Harrison L. England, a white landowner, platted "England's Second Addition to Lincoln Park" into 186 lots,⁷ and for the next 40 years sold vacant lots and then lots with houses on them. England's Addition more than doubled the area of Lincoln Park and established the present boundaries. (England also developed "Croydon Park", an adjacent community for whites.)

In 1935 the Montgomery County Board of Education moved an abandoned building from Takoma Park to use as Lincoln High School. As a result, for the first time black students in Montgomery County were able to attend school beyond the seventh grade without having to go into Washington, D.C. Black students from all parts of the County were bused to Lincoln. In 1950 Carver High School opened in Rockville, and Lincoln was used as a junior high school until its closure in 1958.

Residents of Lincoln Park in 1949 petitioned the Mayor and Council of Rockville for incorporation into the City, and this was accomplished by spring of that year. In the 1950s streets were paved, houses were attached to the water system, and curbs and gutters were provided to Lincoln Park. Multiple-family housing was constructed in the 1950s and 1960s, and recreational facilities have been added.

Lincoln Park today is a low-to-moderate income, predominantly black, community of approximately 320 households. Most of the residents own their own homes. The community remains close-knit and basically intact physically.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Hopkins Atlas (1879; U.S. Census (1880)).
2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., JA 23/193 (February 3, 1891).
3. Ibid., JA 33/265 (1892).
4. Ibid., Plats B34 and B35.
5. No plat has been found, but deeds refer to one filed November 17, 1906.
6. Land Records, op. cit., 264/199 (June 12, 1917).
7. Ibid., Plat 342 (October 1926).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

U.S. Census Records

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.

Duffin, Sharyn, "Lincoln Park Historic District", prepared for
The Afro-American Institute for Historic Preservation and
Community Development (February 1978).

Hopkins Atlas, 1879

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The community is bordered by the B & O tracks to the west, an industrial zone and a gas field to the north, Southlawn Industrial Park on the east, a residential area on the southeast, and another industrial zone on the southwest.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Sharyn Duffin

Michael Dwyer/Eileen McGuckian
Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

June 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC-SITES-SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Lincoln Park-Historic Area

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

approximate boundaries are: Stonestreet Ave. on west, Lincoln Ave.

CITY, TOWN

on south, Frederick Ave. on north,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

(Rockville)

VICINITY OF

and Horner's Lane on east.

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION☒ CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

☒ STATUS

PRESENT USE

☒ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☒ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☒ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☒ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☒ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE☒ PUBLIC ACQUISITION☒ ACCESSIBLE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ NO☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Various private owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:26-15-1

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a mostly-residential housing area that contains a mixture of housing types. Most of the present buildings date from the mid-20th Century period, but there are a number of notable earlier structures scattered throughout the area. Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane, opposite Southlawn Lane. The focal point here is the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with a number of sophisticated details. The building is now covered with a modern, yellow-tile type of brick veneer. The central entrance is in the east gable facade. The door is flanked by slim pilasters, and narrow stain-glass windows. Above the door is a large, circular stained-glass window. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings. The first of these is a white, two-story, gable-facade structure, with an inset open porch at the upper level. There is a rail with turned posts here. The siding is German siding. South of this, also facing east, is a two-story house with an A-roof and clapboard siding. It sits on a brick foundation and has a three-bay main facade, with the door in the north-end bay. An open Victorian porch crosses the front. A two-story ell extends to the rear (north). The chimneys are stove-types, and the roof is covered with stamped, patterned tin.

Nearby, at 302 Lincoln Ave., is a three-bay, two-story brick building with a flat roof. (It is now painted pink.) It resembles a detailed row or town house, such as those seen in Washington, Baltimore or Laurel. It has a number of ornamental features highlighted by molded brick work, such as in the window arches. The window sills appear to be of stone.

#8-SIGNIFICANCE:

A large community cemetery is situated on Horner's Lane, at Frederick Ave.

This is probably the largest and best-known black community in Mont. Co. While there is no evidence of pre-Civil War housing here, this was one of the earliest and most highly-developed Negro settlements in the area. The County's only Negro high schools (Carver, followed by Lincoln) were located here, and students came from all over the County to attend.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M.26-15-1

- 1) MONT. COUNTY JOURNAL, April 17, 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

Summer, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



NAME

#26-15 LINCOLN PARK

LOCATION

HORNER'S LANE AT SOUTHLAWN LANE, ROCKVILLE, MD

FACADE

E

PHOTO TAKEN

5/27/76 MDWYER